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Application No. 10/811,233 Filed: March 26, 2004 TC Art Unit: 2627

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THE SPECIFICATION

WSGL

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 3-10, as follows:

According to the aforementioned construction, since the cutout portion of the lens holder is sealed with the light-shielding
ring and thus the peripheral light of a laser beam can be
completely blocked, it is possible to form an accurate beam spot
without influencing the peripheral light. As a result, it is
possible to implement an optical pickup device with high
reliability and reduced thicknesswhile—thickness while avoiding
the formation of a thin film portion in the lens holder.